

United States District Court
District of Rhode Island

Attorney Admissions

(Rev. 10/07)

According to Local Rule Gen. 202 of this Court, in order to be eligible for membership in the Bar of this Court, an attorney must:

- (1) Be a member of good standing of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the State of Rhode Island; and
- (2) Either:
 - (A) Have completed the course of instruction and have passed the examination* on Federal Practice and Procedure given by this Court's Board of Bar Admissions (See below for details about the Federal Bar Lectures), or
 - (B) Have at least five years of experience in practicing before federal courts and certify that he or she has read and understand these Local Rules (See below for details about being admitted without taking the exam.);
- and
- (3) Establish to the satisfaction of this Court, that he or she is otherwise qualified and fit to be admitted to the Bar of this Court.

Federal Bar Lectures

Applications for the annual Federal Bar Lectures will automatically be mailed to attorneys who were sworn in to the bar of the Supreme Court of the state of Rhode Island in the previous year. For example, attorney sworn into the RI State Bar in 2006 will receive notification for the 2007 Lectures. Any attorney who wishes to receive an application and does not believe that he or she is on the mailing list, should send a written request to the U.S. District Court, One Exchange Terrace, Providence, RI 02903 or contact the Clerk's Office by phone (401) 752-7200.

Applications are usually mailed to the attorneys at the beginning of December, at which time the course materials will be available to download from this website.

There are five mandatory lectures that are usually held during the 2nd and 3rd week of January.

** The bar examination requirement has been suspended. See Administrative Order 2007-05. Please note that attendance at the lectures is still required.*

Petition for Admission Pursuant to LR Gen 202(a)(2)(B) Without Examination

An applicant who is a member in good standing of the bar of the Supreme Court of the State of Rhode Island **and** is a member in good standing of the bar of any other United States District Court may be admitted to the bar of this Court without taking the course of instruction on federal practice, provided the person can

- a.) establish to the satisfaction of this Court that he has at least five (5) years of experience in practicing before federal courts; and
- b.) has read and has a knowledge of the local rules of this Court.

If the applicant meets the above requirements, the following items shall be filed with the Clerk of Court:

1. In application form duly completed. The application form can be obtained from the Clerk's Office, (401) 752-7200, in person by mail, or by e-mail. The applicant may supplement the information he provides in the application form as to his experience in practice before the federal courts;
2. A current Certificate of Good Standing from the Supreme Court of the State of Rhode Island; and
3. A current Certificate of Good Standing from the U.S. District Court where the applicant is a member.

** The bar examination requirement has been suspended. See Administrative Order 2007-05. Please note that attendance at the lectures is still required.*